Letters patent

Patents Act 1990

Commonwealth
of Australia

STANDARD PATENT

I, Vivienne Joyce Thom, Commissioner of Patents, grant a Standard Patent with the following particulars:

Name and Address of Patentee:
Acres Gaming, Inc, 7115 Amigo Street, Suite 150, Las Vagas, Nevada 89119, United States Of America

Names of Actual Inventors: John Acres; Alec Ginsburg and David Wiebenson

Title of Invention: Computer network for controlling and monitoring gaming devices
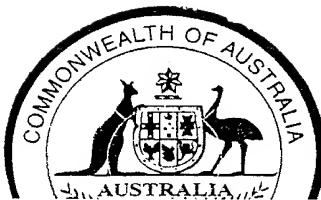
Application Number: 48478/97

Term of Letters Patent: Twenty years commencing on 26 July 1995

Divisional of: 686824

Dated this 5 day of April 2001

V.J.THOM
COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS

(57)   Claim

1. A method of operating gaming devices interconnected by a computer network to a host computer having a user-generated input device comprising:

associating each gaming device with a unique address code;

selecting less than all of the gaming devices interconnected by the computer network responsive to a user-effected action at the input device which identifies the selected gaming devices with the respective associated address codes;

using the network to track the amount of money played on the selected gaming devices;

allocating a predetermined percentage of the money played to a bonus pool;

providing data establishing criteria to cause a bonus to be paid from the pool via one of said selected gaming devices upon the occurrence of a predetermined event;

storing the data in a memory connected to a controller associated with only one of the gaming devices;

transmitting data indicative of gaming device activity from the gaming device to the controller;

transmitting a pay command from the controller to the gaming device upon the occurrence of the predetermined event; and

paying money from the bonus pool via the gaming device responsive to receipt of the pay command.